

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS, MAY, 1928

[The table herewith contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A more complete statement will appear in the Annual Report of the Chief of Bureau]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks	Authority
Carlsbad, N. Mex.	2	3-4 p. m.	4 miles		\$5,000	Heavy hail	Crops badly damaged	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Clarks, Nebr.	2	5 p. m.	300		150,000	Tornado	Many buildings demolished; trees uprooted; telephone and telegraph poles broken; crops damaged.	Do.
Doniphan, Nebr.	2	5:30 p. m.	130		3,500	do.	A number of farm buildings wrecked; path 11 miles long.	Do.
Bancroft, Nebr.	2	6:45 p. m.	880		50,000	do.	Character of damage not reported	Do.
Buena Vista County, Iowa	2	7:30 p. m.	1,760			do.	do.	Do.
Cherokee County, Iowa	2	do.			350,000	do.	Extensive damage to farm property and overhead wire systems; 3 persons injured.	Tribune (Sioux City, Iowa).
Woodbury County, Iowa	2	do.			100,000	do.	Character of damage not reported	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Smith County, Kans.	2	8 p. m.			15,000	do.	Houses unroofed; outbuildings and telephone lines blown down.	Do.
Iowa (northwestern) and Nebraska (northeastern).	2	P. m.				Winds, rain, and hail.	Considerable damage to crops, poles, and farm property.	Do.
Otis to Loving, N. Mex.	2				5,000	Thunderstorm and hail.	Character of damage not reported	Do.
Cypress, Fla.	6	1 p. m.	3 miles		5,000	Hail	Melon crop a total loss	Do.
Compass Lake, Fla.	6	2 p. m.	1,760			do.	Many acres of orange trees damaged	Do.
Miccosukee, Fla., and vicinity.	6	3-6 p. m.	1-5 miles		23,000	do.	Damage chiefly to crops	Do.
Monroe to Boston, Ga.	6	do.			25,000	do.	Damage chiefly to tobacco crop	Do.
Judson, Fla. (near)	6	9 p. m.	3-8 miles		50,000	do.	Crops severely damaged	Do.
Redfield, S. Dak.	7	5:45 p. m.			500	Small tornado	Few small buildings blown down	Do.
Colorado, Tex.	13	8 p. m.	3,520			Hail	Crops almost a total loss over a path 15 miles long.	Do.
Harmon County, Okla.	14	do.	5 miles		20,000	do.	Crops injured; minor property damage	Do.
Carriere, Miss.	14	8:30 p. m.				Probably small tornado.	3 residences demolished	Do.
Chaneyville, La. (near)	14		1,760			Thundersquall	3 homes and several chimneys blown down; 2 persons injured.	Do.
Rockport to Tarkio (near) Mo.	15	3:30-4 p. m.	16-33		10,000	Tornado	Property damaged over path 16 miles long	Do.
White Cloud, Kans.	15	4:50 p. m.	do.	1	2,000	do.	1 home demolished, others damaged; several persons injured.	Do.
Rotan, Tex. (near)	15	5:30 p. m.	440		5,000	do.	Buildings damaged; 3 persons injured; path 3 miles.	Do.
Raymore, Mo.	15	6:30 p. m.	10-33		8,000	do.	Some destruction of property	Do.
Lutherville, Ark.	15				25,000	Tornado and hail	Considerable property and crop damage	Do.
Pueblo, Colo. (south of)	16	1 p. m.				Tornado	No damage reported	Do.
Reed, Okla.	16	3:30 p. m.	440		20,500	do.	A number of small dwellings and a schoolhouse demolished; all other buildings damaged; crops injured.	Do.
Erick, Okla.	16	4 p. m.			140,000	Wind	Extensive crop damage, minor injury to property.	Do.
Willow, Okla. (near)	16	do.	6 miles		68,000	do.	Damage chiefly to crops	Do.
Sayre, Okla.	16	5 p. m.	5 miles		125,000	Wind and hail	Severe property and crop damage; 1 person injured.	Do.
Oilton, Okla. (near)	16	10 p. m.	440	2	50,000	Wind	Oil derricks damaged; trees uprooted; crops injured; 23 persons hurt.	Do.
Kiowa County, Okla.	16					Heavy hail	Crops and other property extensively damaged	Do.
Justin, Tex.	17	5 p. m.	3 miles		50,000	Hail	Crops severely injured over path 30 miles long	Do.
Gainesville, Tex. (16 miles northeast of)	17	8 p. m.		1	7,500	Tornado	Crops ruined; buildings damaged; 4 persons injured.	Do.
Hall and Collingsworth Counties, Tex.	17				200,000	do.	Property of all kinds damaged; 6 persons hurt; path 14 miles.	Do.
Iowa (northwestern)	17	P. m.				Hail	Damage chiefly to fruit	Do.
Sterling, Colo.	17					Hail and rain	Young crops injured; buildings, roads, etc., damaged.	Do.
Thackerville, Okla.	17	8-9 p. m.	1,760		100,000	Wind	Crops and property damaged over path 4 miles long; 4 persons injured.	Do.
Winters, Tex.	18	12:45 p. m.	5 miles		15,000	Hail	Considerable property damage; livestock injured.	Do.
Big Cabin, Okla. (near)	18	5-6 p. m.			10,000	do.	Crops damaged	Do.
Rush and Barton Counties, Kans.	18	5:30-6 p. m.	1-10 miles		75,000	do.	Growing crops severely damaged	Do.
Amarillo, Tex.	18	7 p. m.	440		100,000	do.	Auto tops, roofs, and windows ruined	Do.
Salina County, Kans.	18	6:30-7 p. m.	880-3,520		500,000	do.	Damage principally to wheat	Do.
Gordonville, Tex.	18	9:30 p. m.	1,320		40,000	do.	Crops damaged over path 10 miles long	Do.
Dimmitt and Plainview, Tex.	19	1 a. m.	4 miles		200,000	do.	Roofs, windows, and crops severely damaged; path 45 miles.	Do.
Sidney, Nebr.	19	4 p. m.	3 miles			do.	Gardens and crops injured over path 15 miles long.	Do.
Hyannis, Nebr.	19	4:30 p. m.	12 miles			do.	Windows, roofs, and crops damaged; path 18 miles.	Do.
Dauphin, York, Cumberland and Perry Counties, Pa.	19					Electrical wind and hail.	Farm property damaged	Do.
Quay, N. Mex.	19			2	25,000	Thunderstorm and hail.	Orchards damaged	Do.
Williamson County, Tex.	20	A. m.				Hail	Crops destroyed	Do.
Jefferson County, Okla. (western)	20	5 p. m.	3,520			do.	Heavy crop and property damage; path 25 miles	Do.
Ladessa, Okla. (near)	20	5:30 p. m.				do.	Gardens entirely destroyed; fruit badly injured	Do.
Laredo, Tex. (near)	21	2:30 p. m.		3	75,000	Hail and wind	Heavy property damage; livestock killed; many persons injured.	Do.
Mountain Park, N. Mex.	21	7 p. m.	1,760		15,000	Heavy hail	Severe damage to apples and cherries	Do.
Dawson, Ga. (near)	22	11:45 a. m.			10,000	Hail	Cotton damaged	Do.
Snyder and Juniata Counties, Pa.	22	6-7 p. m.	1,760		15,000	Hail and wind	Damage chiefly to crops, barns and frail buildings.	Do.
Bradley, Ga. (near)	22				40,000	Hail	Heavy damage to peaches	Do.
Pickens and parts of adjacent counties, Ala.	22		3 miles		300,000	do.	Chickens and livestock killed; many acres of crops ruined; 200 families left destitute; path 40 miles long.	Do.
Shellman, Ga. (near)	22					Small tornado	2 barns destroyed; several residences unroofed; trees, fruit, and tobacco injured.	Do.
Stewartville, Ind. (near)	25	2:30 p. m.	50		7,000	do.	1 dwelling, a barn, and a few outbuildings demolished; path 1 mile.	Do.
Lovett, Fla., to Nankin, Ga.	26	6 p. m.			2,000	Hail	Crops injured	Do.
Blount, Wash. (near)	26	11:30 p. m.			4,500	do.	Orchards badly beaten	Do.
Clark, Comanche and Kiowa Counties, Kans.	28	5:30 p. m.	3,520		250,000	do.	Damage chiefly to growing crops	Do.

SEVERE LOCAL STORMS, MAY, 1928—Continued

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks	Authority
Fairfield, Tex.	28	5:30 p. m.			1,000	Probably small tornado.	Minor damage to buildings.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Booker, Tex.	28		1,320		40,000	Hail.	Crops damaged; path 10 miles.	Do.
Hondo, Tex.	29	4 a. m.	1,760		2,000	do.	Crops badly damaged over short path.	Do.
Kettle Falls, Wash. (near)	29	10:30 a. m.				do.	Orchards and gardens considerably injured.	Do.
Greensboro, Fla.	29	3 p. m.			5,800	do.	Crops injured.	Do.
Danbury, Nebr.	30	6 p. m.				Hail and wind.	Partial to total loss of crops; some buildings damaged.	Do.
Red Willow and Frontier Counties, Nebr.	30	do.	3 miles.			do.	Crops damaged from 85 to 100 per cent in places.	Do.
Humphrey, Nebr. (near)	30					Small tornado.	Crops and farm buildings damaged.	Kansas City Times (Mo.).
Kansas City, Mo., and vicinity.	30	P. m.				Thunderstorm.	Considerable damage to trees, buildings, etc.; several persons injured.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Raymondsville, Tex., and vicinity.	31	2:30 p. m.	3,520		500,000	Hail.	Severe damage to buildings and crops over a path 15 miles long.	Do.
Cherokee, Okla. (near)	31	6 p. m.				do.	Severe property and crop loss.	Do.

RIVERS AND FLOODS

By R. E. SPENCER

Reports received too late for inclusion in the April REVIEW give the following additional figures pertaining to the floods of late April and early May in the Atlantic and West Gulf drainages:

Losses	Raleigh, N. C., district (rivers of North Carolina)	Mobile, Ala., district (Black Warrior and Tombigbee Rivers)
Tangible property (buildings, bridges, highways, etc.)	\$2,500	\$55,000
Matured crops		2,400
Prospective crops	5,000	105,500
Livestock and other movable property		19,600
Suspension of business	5,000	70,800
Savings accomplished through Weather Bureau flood warnings	15,000	255,700

In the Tombigbee-Black Warrior drainage, where lowlands were inundated to as much as 6 miles from the river banks in some localities, the flood proved of distinct value to lumber interests as a means of removing logs from swamp lands, the warnings affording sufficient time for preparations for the work. It is estimated that 14,000,000 feet of timber were floated out from the lowlands of the four counties nearest the mouth of the Tombigbee River.

The river service in Maine was reestablished recently under the supervision of the Weather Bureau Office at Portland, Me., after several years of inactivity. Owing to the rapidity of run-off and the comparative shortness of the streams in Maine, and to the consequence that rises generally occur while causative rains are still in progress, the river forecaster is required to estimate intensities of expected rainfalls. The method in use at Portland of course attempts nothing more definite than to predict these intensities as light, moderate, or heavy; but, with this general classification used as a key during a period of moderate flood conditions in Maine toward the end of May, the service proved quite equal to the demands made upon it. No damage occurred, and expressions of appreciation for the service—particularly from water power companies operating dams for the control of run-off—were numerous.

Other May rises in the Atlantic and East Gulf drainages were of little importance.

The consequences of the rises in the Yazoo Basin and the Atchafalaya and lower Mississippi Rivers were of no

great importance. In the Tallahatchie and Yazoo Basins the combined overflow covered not more than 1,000 square miles, about one-fifth of which was under cultivation; but the land was replanted immediately upon the recession of the flood, so that the only actual loss was in seed and labor. In St. Martin Parish, La., over flow from the Atchafalaya also covered lowlands that had been planted to crops, but no estimate of the damage was received.

In the Shreveport, La., district, flood stages were passed in the Sulphur and Cypress Rivers, and damage estimated at \$30,000 was done. Of this, \$20,000 was to highways and railroad property, and \$10,000 to crops.

On the Rio Grande no damage is reported at any point except in the vicinity of the city of Riógrande, Tex., where the rise, combined with concurrent heavy rainfall, damaged highways, culverts, and prospective and matured crops to the amount of about \$75,000. As a result of Weather Bureau warnings, \$5,000 worth of property was saved at Riógrande and extensive protective measures, reported to have saved many thousands of dollars, were taken at downstream points.

No damage is reported as a result of floods in the Denver, Colo., district; and the Columbia River rise which continued after the close of the month, will be discussed in the June number of the REVIEW.

River and station	Flood stage	Above flood stages—dates		Crest	
		From—	To—	Stage	Date
ATLANTIC DRAINAGE					
Susquehanna: Wilkes Barre, Pa.	Feet 20	1	2	Feet 20.0	May 1-2.
Potomac:					
Cumberland, Md.	8	(1)	1	10.4	May 1.
Harpers Ferry, W. Va.	18	2	2	18.9	May 2.
Roanoke: Weldon, N. C.	30	(1)	2	39.2	Apr. 29.
Tar: Rocky Mount, N. C.	9	2	2	9.6	May 2.
Neuse:					
Neuse, N. C.	15	(1)	3	19.3	Apr. 30.
Smithfield, N. C.	14	(1)	4	18.0	May 3.
Cape Fear:					
Fayetteville, N. C.	35	(1)	1	44.4	Apr. 29.
Elizabethtown, N. C.	22	(1)	3	31.2	May 1.
Peedee: Mars Bluff, S. C.	17	(1)	7	20.3	May 4.
		10	15	19.0	May 13.
		26	28	17.6	May 28.
Santee:					
Rimini, S. C.	12	(1)	24	15.4	Apr. 16.
		27	(1)	14.1	May 30.
Ferguson, S. C.	12	(1)	21	13.5	Apr. 28-29 and May 15.
Broad: Blairs, S. C.	15	25	(1)	13.4	May 30.
		9	9	15.3	May 9.
		24	24	15.0	May 24.
Saluda:					
Chappells, S. C.	14	8	10	17.4	May 9.
		24	25	17.2	May 25.
Three Mile Post, C. N. & L. R. R., S. C.	7	24	25	8.2	May 24.

Continued from last month.

* Continued at end of month.